

EXHIBIT 26
DATE 2-18-15
HB 501

HB 501 SAM Testimony 2-18-15 H Ed

House Education Committee

18-FEB-15	3:00 PM	137	HB 501	Revise laws related to student data collection and privacy	Debra Lamm (R) HD 60	Opponent
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Opponent

Concerns with the bill:

- Section 1, p. 1, line 20-23 – This section would put a stop to collecting data to learn how our students are doing academically. This is counter to all of the data collection placed upon schools by the legislature in the last 2 session to hold schools accountable. I would say the formative data collected on student achievement to help educators identify various teaching strategies to help students is the most important data collected and maybe should be the only data collected – but certainly not eliminated by this bill.
- P. 2, line 4-6 – Eliminating this data collection will impact the safety and health of students in our schools. Now, some of this data is collected via the Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) – not by the state but through voluntary request. Used to help determine programming for health and welfare of students.

This bill inhibits school officials from protecting children from potential catastrophic events by handicapping the access to information in the extreme (handwriting analysis example).

This bill is extreme politics and will not benefit the education of students in Montana.

You have heard from your constituents who know a great deal about educating Montana's children.

I urge your no vote on HB 501.

